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MODIFIED PTO/SB/24 (04-04)

|   |                      |  |                     |
|---|----------------------|--|---------------------|
| <b>EXPRESS ABANDONMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.138</b><br><br><b>TO:</b><br><b>MAIL STOP EXPRESS ABANDONMENT</b><br>Commissioner for Patents<br>P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | Appln. No.           |  | 09/812,570          |
|   | Filing Date          |  | March 21, 2001      |
|   | First Named Inventor |  | Dieter BRUECKNER    |
|   | Art Unit             |  | 2667                |
|   | Examiner Name        |  | Christopher P. GREY |
|   | Docket Number        |  | Q63373              |
|   | Title                | NETWORK AND COUPLING DEVICE<br>FOR CONNECTING TWO SEGMENTS<br>IN A NETWORK |                     |

Please **check only one** of boxes 1 or 2 below:  
*(If no box is checked, this paper will be treated as a request for express abandonment as of the filing date of this paper.)*

1. ☒ **Express Abandonment**  
I request that the above-identified application, but not the invention disclosed therein, be expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this paper.

2. ☐ **Express Abandonment in Favor of a Continuing Application**  
I request that the above-identified application, but not the invention disclosed therein, be expressly abandoned as of the filing date accorded the continuing application filed previously or herewith.

**NOTE:** A paper requesting express abandonment of an application is not effective unless and until an appropriate USPTO official recognizes and acts on the paper. See MPEP § 711.01.

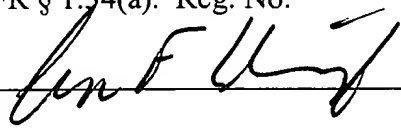
**TO AVOID PUBLICATION, PLEASE USE FORM PTO/SB/24A INSTEAD OF THIS FORM.**

I am the: ☐ applicant.

☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR § 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR § 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)

☒ attorney or agent of record. Reg. No. 36,359

☐ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR § 1.34(a) (may act under 37 CFR § 1.34(a) only if box 2 above, stating that the application is expressly abandoned in favor of a continuing application, is checked). Attorney or agent registration number if acting under 37 CFR § 1.34(a). Reg. No.

|                       |   |                    |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|
| Signature             |  | May 17, 2006       |
|                       |   | Date               |
| George F. Lehnigk     |   | 202-293-7060       |
| Typed or printed name |   | Telephone Number   |
|                       |   | SUGHRUE MION, PLLC |
|                       |   | WASHINGTON OFFICE  |
|                       |   | 23373              |
|                       |   | CUSTOMER NUMBER    |

Note: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☒ **Total of 1 form is submitted.**